

To Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 725 without my signature.

This bill is unnecessary and impractical for the Department of Housing and Community Development to implement. Providers of rental housing are free to develop a uniform rental housing application on their own should they find such an application helpful for their housing developments or for their prospective tenants. Also, since housing providers would be able to request additional information on this application, it in effect would not truly be a universal application.

Additionally, this bill would require state agencies, when awarding housing funding or tax credits, to assign bonus points to applicants using the universal rental application. This provision places the use of a specific rental application on the same priority level as other high level programmatic priorities such as housing affordability, project readiness, and funding commitments. This is not an appropriate way to disperse scarce housing bond funds.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger